

The California Science Center is pleased to provide special insights to our Members! Here's what's in this issue of *The Nucleus*:

Revisit Your Favorite Feature

Science Beyond the Center

Stuck at Home Science

Special ExploraStore Discount for Members

NEW! Virtual Backgrounds

Renew your Membership and Support Science Learning for Everyone

Members, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy and continuing to learn. During these incredibly difficult times, your vital support enables the California Science Center to continue our mission to inspire science learning in everyone. As we adapt to challenges and find new ways to serve the community with educational programming and exhibits, we reaffirm our commitment to the Science Center's core values of accessibility and inclusiveness that are at the heart of everything we do.

THANK YOU!

REVISIT YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE

During this period of uncertainly and unrest, we have been pleased to provide special insights to our Members about how we are continuing our mission of science learning for everyone. In case you missed the features highlighting the Science Center's dedicated team or would like to

revisit them, we are resharing a selection below. A complete list of all prior weekly issues of *The Nucleus* may be found in <u>Member News & Events</u>.

MEET MONICA!



Monica Barajas is an educator at the California Science Center who began her career over 15 years ago as a work study student. Today, Monica is in charge of the Science Center's <u>Big Lab Field Trips</u> for pre-K through 8th grade school groups. She is also the scientist featured in <u>The Big Boom!</u>, the explosive first video of the Stuck at Home Science Series.

"The Stuck at Home Science series is a valuable learning resource for students and families, especially during this time when all residents statewide and beyond are learning and working at home."

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MEET DEVIN!



Devin Waller is Exhibit Project Manager at the California Science Center, where she works with a team of creative people to develop dynamic <u>Air & Space</u> exhibits, including for the future <u>Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center</u>, the permanent home of <u>Space Shuttle Endeavour</u>. You may have seen her in the Stuck at Home Science video <u>Balloon Rockets</u> explaining how Endeavour launched into space.

Devin started working at the California Science Center in 2012, the year Endeavour arrived. She loves the informal learning that takes place at science centers and wanted to design exhibits that would teach the public about the exciting research being done by her fellow scientists. Her favorite thing about the California Science Center is the way we live our core values of inclusion and accessibility every day.

"Our programming is so varied and serves so many different groups – families, classes, home school groups. The guest experience is the primary focus when we develop our exhibits and programs."

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MEET MISHA!



Misha Body is Director of Husbandry at the California Science Center and a passionate advocate for wildlife conservation. Misha's earliest memories include a fascination with the natural world. When she was 7, she recalls seeing an osprey which was special and rare because the species had dwindled in numbers and only began to rebound years after the pesticide DDT was banned. From that point on, she was hooked on conservation and a year later she founded a neighborhood "Environmental Club," granting membership to kids who could pass a quiz she designed from Zoobooks magazines and Wildlife Treasury cards. Misha majored in Zoology at Connecticut College and spent a semester of study in Kenya. While she was awe-inspired by giraffes, zebras and hyenas, meeting local Kenyans had the biggest impact on her understanding that working with people is what makes or breaks conservation efforts. This lesson is one that continues to drive her work.

"Our animals serve as living ambassadors to our guests, helping to further our core value of making science accessible to everyone. This is critical if we hope to develop new and more active stewards for the natural world."

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MEET REGGIE!



Reggie Williams joined the California Science Center family when he was just 10 years old and has been consistently involved with only two summers off. He started as a Young Curator and later became a Teen Intern. After graduating from Humboldt State University with a degree in business management, he returned to the Science Center as a Hands-On Science Camp instructor. Today, Reggie is the Community Coordinator in the Science Center's Education Department. He coordinates the Young Curators program and assists with the Community Teen Program. You may have seen him in the Stuck at Home Science videos Balloon Rockets, Straw Rockets, Bungee Jump or his latest, Blend-n-Seek.

Given Reggie's long history with the Science Center, most people would be surprised to learn that he had very little interest in science as a child, but after his first summer in the Young Curators program, he was hooked.

"You can repeat experiments, while sharpening your problem-solving skills, until you reach a conclusion – there's no such thing as failure in science."

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Evelyn Serrano is the California Science Center's Assistant Manager of <u>Science Live!</u>
Programs and celebrates 10 years in the Education Department. She oversees a team of educators who facilitate fun, hands-on interactive demonstrations for guests throughout the Science Center. These demonstrations are inspired by and expand upon the science concepts illustrated in our permanent exhibit galleries and special exhibitions. You may have experienced the Slime Bar in <u>Creative World</u> or the Touch Tank in <u>Ecosystems</u> during a visit to the Science Center. Evelyn enjoys the challenge of presenting a different scientific principle to a new audience every day. This drive to fearlessly turn people on to science makes Evelyn an effective and engaging <u>Stuck at Home Science</u> live stream video presenter who is featured in Ice Cream Science, Kelp Exploration, Scat a Poop Story and, new this week, Ooey Oobleck.

Evelyn grew up just blocks away from the Science Center and Exposition Park was her family's favorite weekend destination. While her parents enjoyed the Rose Garden, she and her siblings would spend their afternoons roaming the Science Center and enjoying all the hands-on exhibits. Evelyn does not recall having any specific role models in the sciences. Instead, her upbringing helped her develop important skills.

"Whenever we had a problem, my parents didn't always give us the answer right away. They would let us think about it and try to figure out how to solve it on our own."

SCIENCE BEYOND THE CENTER



Missing your visits to the California Science Center?

<u>Science Beyond the Center</u>, a new online portal on our website, will give you special behind-the-scenes access to Science Center exhibits in ways you've never seen before.

You can also take tours through <u>Space Shuttle Endeavour</u> and hear exclusive interviews with astronauts. Meet <u>Ecosystems</u> animals and keepers up close. Explore amazing images and insights from our curators and find out how exhibits are made. And check out some videos from our traveling exhibitions. New content will be added regularly.

Bookmark the <u>Science Beyond the Center</u> page and check back often to see what's new!

STUCK AT HOME SCIENCE



This week in <u>Stuck at Home Science</u>, discover the connections between all life forms. From getting our hearts pumping to engineering ears, let's see how all living thing are alike.

Explore the <u>World of Life</u> Gallery with us from the comfort of your own home! New activities are released every weekday at 10:00 a.m. PST. Bookmark the <u>Stuck at Home Science</u> page for FREE unlimited access to exciting videos and activity guides that are easy to understand and available in both English and Spanish.

Stuck at Home Science, developed in a collaboration of the California Science Center's content experts, educators and professional development team, is an online series of hands-on and age-appropriate science activities using supplies you can find at home. Activities feature videos and downloadable lessons that support the Next Generation Science Standards Science and Engineering Practices. Each week through mid-June covers a themed content goal – such as

rocketry, life science, engineering or ecosystems.

Having fun learning with Stuck at Home Science? Send photos of you and your family doing the activities to member@californiasciencecenter.org for an opportunity to be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Nucleus* and on our Member News & Events page.

SPECIAL EXPLORASTORE DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS



Make science learning at home FUN with our cool <u>Stuck at Home Science activity kits!</u> Members receive 10% off all web orders throughout the month of June, as well as free shipping on all orders \$50 and over. Use promo code: **MemberJune10** at checkout.

Shop Now

VIRTUAL BACKGROUNDS



Missing the Science Center? Download and use these free virtual backgrounds featuring some of our favorite scenes from the California Science Center during your video conference meetings.

Download

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT SCIENCE LEARNING FOR EVERYONE



During these challenging and uncertain times, your support as a Member is critical to our ability to continue serving our community with free online science learning opportunities. Please renew your Membership today in support of our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

Renew



If your Membership is not due for renewal and you are in a position to make an additional gift, of any amount, we invite your contribution. Your generous support will help sustain California Science Center as a trusted educational resource while we are temporarily closed to the public. Thank you.

Donate

For more information on the California Science Center, visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org or call (323) SCIENCE (724-3623). For Membership questions, please contact the Membership Office at member@californiasciencecenter.org or call (213) 744-7504.

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